MINUTES OF MEETING OF COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS
HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., JANUARY 22, 1929.

The sixth meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts, during the fiscal year 1929, was held in its office in the Interior Department Building, on Tuesday, January 22, 1929.

The following members were present:

Mr. Moore, Chairman,
Mr. Garfield,
Mr. Vitale,
Mr. Winter,
Mr. Cross,
also Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary and Executive Officer.

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PRECEDING MEETING: The Minutes of the Meeting held December 6, 1928, were approved.

2. DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS: The following letter, received from the Assistant Secretary of War, F. Trubee Davison, and the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Edward P. Warner, dated December 4, 1928, urging a change in the design of the Distinguished Flying Cross, was read by the Chairman and given very careful consideration by the Commission:

"We have your letter of November 12th addressed to the Secretary of War and declining to grant approval of the proposed changes in the design of the Distinguished Flying Cross. We hesitate to ask you to reconsider this matter, but it is one in which we naturally feel ourselves deeply concerned. The Distinguished Flying Cross is a decoration unique of its kind. It is our desire that the highest standard be maintained in its award and that it be given only in recognition of performances of really exceptional merit. It is a decoration which aviators will wear with great pride, and you will understand that we are peculiarly anxious that its form should be satisfactory not only to trained artistic judgment, but to the less tutored eyes of the associates of those who will win the right to wear the Cross.

A certain degree of dissatisfaction with the original design as it appeared in the Crosses was very widespread. It is our understanding that Senator Bingham, who was more actively concerned

Mr. Moore, chairman,
Mr. Gurdwin,
Mr. Vitale,
Mr. Hinton,
Mr. Trope,
and Executive Officer, Mr. T. Overmeyer, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 P.M.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: The Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 6, 1960, were approved.

2. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED AND SENT: The following letter, received from the Secretary of State, Edward T. Mercer, dated December 4, 1960, urging a change in the design of the Distinguished Flying Cross, was read by the Chairman and given very careful consideration by the Committee:

"We have your letter of November 14th addressed to the Secretary of War and pertaining to [illegible] of the proposed changes in the design of the Distinguished Flying Cross.

We realize we can do nothing to [illegible] but it is one in which we naturally feel personal concern deeply concerned. The Distinguished Flying Cross is a decoration unique of its kind. It is the only decoration that [illegible] the highest standard be maintained in its award and that it be given only in recognition of performance of really outstanding merit. It is a decoration which evidence will [illegible] great pride, and [illegible] mentioned that we are gradually reducing that its [illegible] be maintained not only to [illegible] but to the [illegible] tutored eyes of the [illegible] who will wear the right to wear the Cross.

A certain degree of dissatisfaction with the original design as it appeared in the Bronze was very [illegible]. It is now understanding that [illegible] is more [illegible]

than any other member of the Congress with the measure creating the Distinguished Flying Cross, felt it quite strongly. It was felt and manifested by many others. Recognizing the fundamental merit of the design which you had selected, however, we believed that it would be possible to remove the ground for these criticisms, which was that the Cross did not stand out enough from the background, and that the solidity of the background was somewhat excessive, by relatively minor changes. Those changes have now been made and to some of the strongest objectors to the original design it has seemed that a very marked improvement has been wrought in the general appearance as it would be judged by the layman. We very earnestly hope that it will be possible for you to give some weight to that lay opinion and to reconsider your opinion disapproving the proposed modifications."

Mr. Moore called attention to the fact that Senator Hiram Bingham was very anxious for a better medal, as expressed in the following letter received from him:

December 3, 1928.

"Dear Mr. Moore:

I greatly appreciate your prompt reply to my letter of November 30th, regarding the design for the Distinguished Flying Cross. I am very glad to learn that the subject will be re-opened and I hope very much we can get something that is a little more artistic than the original design for this medal.

Thank you for sending me the newspaper clipping and a copy of your Eighth Report which I am very glad to have.

Sincerely yours,

Hiram Bingham".

The Commission again inspected the medal and the cast of a revised design received from the War Department. The Commission felt that, as expressed in their letter to the Secretary of War on November 12, 1928, no material change would be brought about by the revised design; and, if adopted it would make the revised Distinguished Flying Cross worse than the one now in use. It was noted that the rays in back of the cross, of the cast submitted, are thinner than the original.

The Commission recalled the circumstances under which the Distinguished Flying Cross was prepared; that no time was at hand for the usual procedure. The design was submitted, and approved, at a meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on May 28, 1927, and the medal had to be completed by June 11, 1927, for the

celebration in honor of Colonel Lindbergh in Washington that day, who was given the first Distinguished Flying Cross by President Coolidge for achieving the first non-stop flight by airplane from New York to Paris.

The Commission were unanimous in their opinion that rather, than adopted the suggested change, the original design should be used; that this was a problem that should be placed in the hands of one of the leading medallists of the United States for study and execution, as for example by Paul Manship, to be assured of a real work of art. The Assistant Secretary of War and the Assistant Secretary of the Navy were informed accordingly. (Exhibit A)

3. NEW BUSINESS HIGH SCHOOL, Ground Plan: Mr. A. L. Harris, Municipal Architect, submitted a restudy of the ground plan for the new Business High School to be built at 13th and Upshur Streets, N.W. It was noted that Mr. Harris had carried out the suggestions of the Commission to arrange the playground space, so as to give the building a good setting along Thirteenth Street. The plan was approved.

4. LANDSCAPE PLAN FOR NEW MCKINLEY HIGH SCHOOL: Mr. Harris submitted a further study for planting at the new McKinley High School, at Second and T Streets, N.E. The plan suggested a more direct roadway to the stadium, with flagpoles at the corners of the stadium and planting to frame it. The plan was approved.

The planting of large cedars was recommended. Mr. Vitale said there are no finer cedars than the Virginia cedars, of which there are great quantities in this part of the country.

5. NEW LAMP POSTS FOR THE ANACOSTIA BRIDGE: Mr. W. B. Hadley, Electrical Engineer of the District of Columbia, submitted a sketch for a new lamp post for the Anacostia Bridge. The present lamp post, he said, was too small; and

to use one of the standard "Millet" posts he felt was too large. He therefore suggested a modified design using a large globe but with post of medium size. This was inspected by the Commission in the afternoon at the Anacostia Bridge and approved, with such slight modifications in the design as to make it appropriate for the bridge.

6. PLANS FOR INAUGURATION: Mr. Moore reported that he had been appointed a member of the Committee on Decorations for the Inauguration of President Hoover and that the Committee proposes decorations and are giving them special study with a view to making them much finer than the old style of decorations heretofore used. Questions of lighting were discussed with Mr. Hadley and he expressed his willingness to cooperate.

Mr. Moore said the Committee desires to see many more flagpoles erected of the approved design now in use on certain streets of Washington; that some large flagpoles are desired, approximately 50 feet high, with large flags; and that very probably pennants will also be used as on the streets of Paris. The Commission were pleased to hear this.

7. AMERICAN PHARMACEUTICAL ASSOCIATION BUILDING. In accordance with arrangements made (Exhibit B), Dr. H. A. B. Dunning, Chairman, and Dr. E. F. Kelly, Secretary, of the American Pharmaceutical Association, Baltimore, Md., appeared before the Commission to explain their plans for a national headquarters building in Washington. Mr. T. R. Higgins, and Mr. L. J. Young, representing the firm of John Russell Pope, architect, New York City, who designed the building, were also present to explain the plan of the building.

Dr. Dunning first pointed out the location acquired for the building--namely on certain lots between 20d and 23d Streets, west of the National Academy of Sciences building, along Upper Water Street and north of B Street, where the

building would face the Lincoln Memorial. The plot of ground purchased measures 140 feet in length, and the building will be 120 feet long. Dr. Dunning said it has been impossible for them to raise enough money to buy west to 23d Street and east to 22d Street, the estimated amount required for it being $150,000.

The Commission noted the location and recognized its importance opposite the Lincoln Memorial and in proximity to the Arlington Memorial Bridge; and also considered the building in relation to the plan for the development of B Street. The Commission felt it of great importance that the additional land east to 22d Street and west to 23d Street be acquired to give the building a proper landscape setting and to protect the building from future encroachment by stores or apartment houses. Dr. Dunning said that 14,000 subscribers represented their present fund; that the building contemplated would cost $1,000,000, and they could not say where the additional money would be forthcoming; he stated, however, that leading chemical manufacturers and druggists are members of their organization; that the purpose of the building is to make it a headquarters for pharmacists and allied organizations, and he named several persons, who, he thought, could be persuaded to contribute the additional fund needed, if the Commission of Fine Arts would help them. Dr. Dunning mentioned in particular a Mr. Welcome, who, Mr. Moore, said, was a friend of his and interested in the National Capital, and that he was coming to Washington soon for a visit, so that an opportunity would be given to interest Mr. Welcome further in the project.

Dr. Dunning said that the plan for the building has been endorsed by the Association, and that Mr. Pope is greatly interested in the project and will cooperate in carrying out the plan. The Commission inspected the plan of the building submitted, which represents a monumental building with classical

motives and was worthy of the site selected for it. The Commission approved the design. Mr. Higgins explained certain features of the building, which will be 120 feet long and 72 feet wide in the center portion, with projecting wings. He said that the statue shown in front of the building is really meant for the interior of it. He also said that it is proposed to use Rockford, Alabama, limestone, for it, which is being used for the new Auditorium of the D. A. R. Dr. Dunning said the building will have an Administration Room, a Research Department, a Museum, and things that are characteristic of professional institutions.

Mr. Moore said that if the American Pharmaceutical Association could obtain land east and west of the building, so that it would reach 22d and 23d Streets respectively, the Commission of Fine Arts would recommend to Congress that Upper Water Street be closed and the park land in front of the building to B Street be made available for the use of the Pharmaceutical Association, with the understanding that no building would be built on the park land,-the same as was done in the case of the grounds in front of the National Academy of Sciences building; that the Pharmaceutical Building should have a place in the plan of B Street and a good setting adjacent to the National Academy of Sciences Building; that by getting the park land the Association would be given the use of more land than they were being called upon to purchase.

Dr. Dunning and Dr. Kelly recognized the desirability of securing the additional land and said they would make every effort to secure the necessary funds for the purchase of it; that it was proposed to publish the plans with a description of the project and thereby secure the additional funds.

Dr. Dunning asked about the possibility of the erection of an apartment house near their building, and Mr. Moore said that under the existing law of the

District of Columbia there is nothing to prevent it if the building does not exceed the Zoning height limit, and the only real protection to their building would be to own the land on each side of it to the street. Dr. Dunning said he felt the Association would endorse the suggestion made to acquire adequate ground space and that particular effort would be made to secure the necessary additional funds, so that building operations could begin by 1930.

Dr. Dunning and Dr. Kelly expressed their appreciation of the opportunity given to present their building project, and the Commission said they would help them in every way possible to carry it out. A report was sent to Dr. Dunning (Exhibit C. See also C-1)

8. WAR DEPARTMENT BUILDING at 26th and C Streets, N.W.: Under date of January 8, 1929, the following letter was received from the Secretary of War, submitting a request, with tentative designs, for the approval of the Commission of Fine Arts, for x buildings to consist of barracks, garage, and stable, which the War Department proposes to erect at 26th and C Streets, N.W.:

"There are forwarded herewith for the consideration of your Commission complete file of correspondence and maps regarding the location and construction by this Department of barracks, garage, stable and miscellaneous buildings in the District of Columbia.

The Director of Public Buildings and Public Parks of the National Capital, by tenth indorsement dated January 2, 1929, advised that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission has approved in general the location of these improvements on land west of the Naval Hospital and south of "D" Street, N.W., as shown on blueprint copy of map (Exhibit 5 of attached file).

It will be noted that the Public Buildings Commission will pass upon this project at their forthcoming meeting and it is informally understood that the location will receive favorable consideration.

It is contemplated that the structures and landscape work will harmonize with the surrounding parkway.

When this project has been fully approved and authorized detailed plans of buildings, etc., will be submitted to your Commission, if so required.

A written expression of the views and attitude of your Commission regarding this location is requested at the earliest possible date in order that necessary legislation may be obtained from the present Congress.

The buildings having become necessary by the grant of land by Congress to the Pan American Union for an additional office building, on the triangle at 18th Street and Virginia Avenue, N.W., it was considered an important and urgent project.

General W. E. Horton, Captain D. A. Hanes, and Major Will of the Construction Branch, Office of the Quartermaster General, were present to consider the project with the Commission. Captain Hanes explained the project to the Commission and pointed out that the National Capital Park and Planning Commission had endorsed the project, with the understanding that the buildings would be on land to be purchased by the War Department in the locality, instead of on park land. The Commission said this should be done and that in view of the proximity of the buildings to the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway the buildings should be designed to present an agreeable appearance at the Parkway. It is proposed ~~to purchased~~ to purchase land in and adjacent to Square S.12, between C and D Streets, at 26th Street, N.W. and east of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway. General Horton said it was proposed to secure the money from Congress at this session and that plans for the buildings would be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts. The barracks and garage are to be two-story buildings, and the stable one story. A report was sent to the Secretary of War (Exhibit D).

9. ADDITIONAL BUILDINGS FOR THE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER, WALTER REED HOSPITAL: General W. E. Horton submitted plans for additional buildings to be built at the Army Medical Center, Walter Reed Hospital, to consist of Laboratory, Observation Ward, Tuberculosis Ward, Isolation Ward, and connecting corridor. The plans were explained by Major Will, Architect, Construction Division of the Quartermaster General's Office. Major Will said the plans they were submitting were designed to conform to former plans for buildings at the

Army Medical Center which have heretofore been submitted and approved by the Commission, and the Commission noted this. The Commission inspected the plans and approved them.

Major Will also submitted a plan for a Chapel to be built at the Army Medical Center, designed in Gothic style. The Commission suggested a design to conform to the Georgian type of buildings which are now being erected there, but Major Will said the Chapel is a gift of the late Superintendent of Walter Reed Hospital, Major General James E. Glennan, who requested a chapel such as this, which resembles an English parish church. The Commission interposed no objection to the erection of the chapel and approved the site selected for it,--a place separate from the hospital buildings. Mr. Cross suggested having the slate come to the edge of the roof so as to give it a straight edge, instead of a stone band or "moulding", and the Commission concurred in this suggestion.

10. PROPOSED MURAL DECORATIONS FOR THE PAN AMERICAN BUILDING: Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union, submitted the following letter with a sketch for a suggested mural decoration for the Hall of the Americas in the Pan American Union:

January 14, 1929.

"Confidential

My dear Dr. Moore:

May I ask you to give consideration to a matter which has been submitted to me by Mr. Howard Chandler Christy.

Mr. Christy informs me that one of his friends is prepared to defray the entire cost of placing frescoes in the Hall of the Americas of the Pan American Union. He has made the accompanying sketch and in the course of the next few weeks, I shall have to submit the matter to the Governing Board of the Pan American Union. It would be very helpful to me if I might have the advice and opinion of the National Commission of Fine Arts on this matter.

Thanking you in advance for your kindness, I am,

Very cordially yours,

L. S. Rowe".

The sketch was brought to the particular attention of Mr. Winter, who inspected it. It represented simply a female figure in various positions. Mr. Winter said the design was without artistic merit and was inappropriate for the Pan American Building; it was illustrative and theatrical, rather than decorative and monumental, and was out of keeping with the dignified character of monumental public and semi-public buildings in Washington. Mr. Winter disapproved the sketch, and the Commission, on examination of it, concurred. A report was sent to Dr. Rowe (Exhibit E).

Mr. Winter said he would recommend that when the Government has mural work to be done the matter be brought to the attention of the National Society of Mural Painters, 115 East 40th Street, New York City,--an association founded through the instrumentality of Mr. Blashfield and Mr. Weir for the purpose of promoting mural decoration along approved lines in this country.

11. OFFICE BUILDING FOR THE PAN AMERICAN: Under date of December 12, 1928, Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General of the Pan American Union, sent the following letter to the Commission of Fine Arts, with sketch plans for their new office building:

> "In accordance with the terms of the Act of Congress, approved May 16, 1928, authorizing the erection for the use of the Pan American Union of a building on the land lying between Eighteenth Street, C Street and Virginia Avenue, N.W., I have the honor to submit to the Commission of Fine Arts the plans of the building as prepared by the architects, Messrs. Albert Kelsey and Paul Cret."

The Commission took the plans under consideration, as also sketch plans subsequently received from Dr. Rowe on January 21, 1929, with a letter from Dr. Cret (Exhibit F), who designed them, showing a suggested lay-out for a building in the square south of Virginia Avenue, between 18th and 19th Streets, so as to provide more space for a suitable building adjacent to and in keeping with the Pan American building, along B Street, and be a part of the B Street plan of development.

The Commission considered the sketches in connection with the project of the War Department building at 26th and C Streets, N.W., and the suggestion for a new "Triangle" development bounded by New York Avenue, 17th Street and B Street, and on the west by the Potomac River. Mr. Moore said he would call

it the "Triangle of the Amenities". Attention was called to the monumental buildings in this Triangle, as the Pan American, Continental Hall, the Red Cross, the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the National Academy of Sciences building; that a fine marble building is now being built on the squared owned by the National Red Cross for the Memorial to the Women of the World War, and a large auditorium by the D. A. R., to be known as Constitution Hall; also there is the proposed national headquarters building for the American Pharmaceutical Association. Attention was also called to the fact that the Government owns several of the squares of this triangle, on which there are temporary war buildings at the present time. Col. Grant, who was present during the discussion, said he was heartily in favor of this proposed development.

The Commission felt that an adequate building should be built by the Pan American Union, appropriately designed for a place in the plan for the development of B Street and this "Triangle", with space for gardens similar to the present gardens of the Pan American Union. It was thought that while it might become necessary to arch over Virginia Avenue ultimately, the juncture with 18th Street could be much improved over present conditions; that if the Square on the south side of Virginia Avenue would be granted by Congress in exchange for the one north of Virginia Avenue, this would leave the Avenue open, and give the Pan American considerable space for a good-sized building and space for garden and grounds related to B Street. It was noted by Plan B prepared by Dr. Cret suggested this treatment, and this was favored.

(At a conference held with Dr. Rowe at the Pan American on January 31, 1929, which Mr. Moore, Col. Grant, Mr. Partridge, consulting architect, and Mr. Eliot, city planner, of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission, and Mr. Casemerer, attended, Plan B was unanimously favored, and Mr. Moore approved it in behalf of the Commission of Fine Arts. A report was sent to Dr. Rowe (Exhibit G)

12. ARLINGTON MEMORIAL BRIDGE: Col. Grant and Major Mehaffey submitted a plan for the foundation of the pylons for the Arlington Memorial Bridge at the Lincoln Memorial Plaza, made by McKim, Mead and White, architects, with pedestal for the equestrian group No.1 (plan dated January 5, 1933). Major Mehaffey pointed out a bench at the base of the design, to which there was no particular objection on the part of the Commission; but it was thought the ornamental border might be omitted. With these suggestions the design was approved.

13. ADDITIONAL DRIVEWAY FROM B STREET TO THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL PLAZA: Col. Grant and Major Mehaffey submitted a plan showing an additional driveway to the Lincoln Memorial plaza from the circle north of the Lincoln Memorial at B Street extending southeast to the plaza. The Commission felt this was making good use of part of the land in the locality, and it is to be given further study in connection with the plan of development of the Lincoln Memorial Plaza for the Arlington Memorial Bridge. The plan comprised a planting plan for transplanting existing Japanese Cherry Trees located near the approach to the Memorial Bridge (Plan dated December 26, 1932). It was stated that 48 Japanese Cherry Trees require removal because of the development there.

14. EXECUTIVE OFFICE ENLARGEMENT, The White House: Colonel Grant and Major Mehaffey submitted a plan for the enlargement of the Executive Offices, being a copy of the plan heretofore approved by the Commission of Fine Arts. Col. Grant said President-elect Hoover wishes to use the basement of the Executive Office building for offices; also, that he desires to enlarge the waiting room space of the Executive Office by taking out the partition walls of a room in that part of the building. The Commission felt this would be making good use of the space.

15. MERIDIAN HILL PARK, Terrace: Col. Grant requested the advice of the

Commission as to making the completion of the Grand Terrace the next step in the development of Meridian Hill Park. The Commission after consideration unanimously endorsed the suggestion. The pending appropriation bill for the District of Columbia, fiscal year 1930, contains an item of $100,000 for the further development of Meridian Hill Park and Col. Grant said that the Appropriations Committee of Congress seemed disposed to allow $100,000 during each of the next two or three years, so that the park can be completed by that time. The Commission suggested that next year funds be made available for the Cascades, as shown in the plan of Meridian Hill Park.

16. FREER GALLERY OF ART, purchases: Mr. J. E. Lodge, Curator of the Freer Gallery of Art, submitted the following articles for purchase by the Freer Gallery, under date of January 4th:

"Dr. Charles G. Abbot, Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution, Mr. Charles Moore, representing the Commission of Fine Arts, Miss Katharine N. Rhoades and Mrs. Eugene Meyer, as provided in Paragraph 4 of the Codicil to the Will of the late Charles L. Freer, have examined the following objects:

Part of a Buddhist scroll from Tun-Huang, Chinese, dated A. D. 797,
Pagoda mandara, Japanese, 10th century,
A prince and an ascetic, Mughal painting, Indian, 17th century.
Bronze mirror, Chinese, 5th-6th century,
Silver box, Chinese, 9th century,
Pottery jar, Chinese, 9th century,
Flower pot, Ch'un pottery, Chinese, 12th century,
Pilgrim bottle, Syrian glass, 13th-14th century,

which have been recommended for purchase for the Freer Gallery of Art by Mr. John E. Lodge, Curator, and hereby approve the purchase.

The Commission inspected the articles at the Freer Gallery and found them to be very interesting speciments of Far Eastern art. The purchase of them was approved by the Commission.

17. EXHIBITION BY THE NATIONAL SCULPTURE SOCIETY: Mr. Winter submitted the following letter received by him from the National Sculpture Society, 115 East 40th

Street, New York City, asking if the Commission of Fine Arts would endorse the propored exhibition in California:

January 21, 1929.

"Mr. Ezra Winter,
15 Vanderbilt Avenue,
New York City.

My dear Mr. Winter:

The exhibition at California, under the auspices of the National Sculpture Society, will be an event that this country may well be proud of, and we hope that the Federal Commission of Art will give its moral support and cooperation by the means indicated in the enclosed.

We would also like to secure an expression of interest and approval from President-elect Hoover, and if you and the other members of the Commission would use your influence in turning the attention of the new Government to the exhibition, it would be of very great value and help.

Yours sincerely,

Clara N. Mason,
Publicity Director."

Mr. Moore said the previous exhibitions by the National Sculpture Society at Buffalo and at New York City were interesting and delightful occasions, and he would say this one in California would be even better. The Commission thereupon endorsed the proposed exhibition and the National Sculpture Society was informed accordingly (Exhibit H)

18. FIRST DIVISION MEMORIAL, Landscape treatment of grounds, including grounds south of Memorial to D Street: Mr. Vitale stated that in accordance with the suggestions of the Commission, he was giving special attention to the landscape plan for the First Division Memorial, and was staying over a day for that purpose.

On January 23, 1929, Col. U. S. Grant 3d, Director of the Office of Public Buildings and Public Parks, and Mr. Vitale, gave further consideration to the tree planting for the area immediately adjacent to the First Division Memorial, and also to the area extending to the south.

Mr. Vitale felt that the kind of existing trees - common linden - should be planted in the remaining tree locations, thus continuing the present rectangular layout of trees. Regarding the two innermost rows of linden trees running north and south, he felt that these rows should be continued by planting a single area on the north side of the memorial in each of the above two rows. Also, that two matched dwarf box, three to four feet in height, should be planted, one on each side of the existing north entrance steps to the platform. As a means of further defining the grass panel, Mr. Vitale suggested the need for two hemlock hedges, each paralleling and running between, and adjacent to, the two innermost rows of lindens. Col. Grant explained that it was planned to continue the existing grass panel southward to the Tidal Basin by removing the intervening smaller trees and shrubs as funds may permit this improvement.

In giving consideration to the concrete sidewalk beginning at the northwest corner and terminating at the Butt-Millet Memorial Fountain, Mr. Vitale suggested that the walk, lying immediately within the south grass panel, could be straightened so as to run east and west and then continue southeast along the present walk. Colonel Grant raised the question as to disposition of existing trees now located slightly off the east and west axis of the First Division Memorial. Mr. Vitale felt that these trees could be left in their present location without further change.

The Commission had as their guests at luncheon Col. Grant and Major Negaffey. In the afternoon the Commission inspected works of art at the Freer Gallery of Art, the model of the proposed new lamp post at the Anacostia Bridge, and the construction work in the Lower Garden of Meridian Hill Park. The Commission felt that the work of developing the Lower Garden was progressing very favorably. The Commission adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

COPY

January 24, 1929.

My dear Sirs:

In regard to the revised design of the Distinguished Flying Cross: when the design originally came before the Commission of Fine Arts it was urged that there was immediate necessity for approval of a design in order to present a cross to Colonel Lindbergh. Of the designs submitted the Commission selected the best of the lot. At the same time they felt that the design was not worthy in general conception and execution of the high honor it was intended to signify. In other countries it is the custom to place in the hands of medallists of high standing and of distinguished achievements the design of such trophies. Here was an opportunity to produce a medal of the highest distinction, for there are in this country medallists of high ability and approved merit. The design submitted was common-place and insignificant.

When the revised design came to the Commission they felt that the changes proposed detracted from the original design, rather than enhanced it, and therefore they disapproved such changes. A further and very careful consideration of the design at the meeting of the Commission of Fine Arts on January 22, 1929, confirmed this opinion.

Is it not possible in redesigning this medal to make it what Senator Bingham contemplated when he secured the legislation, namely a distinct work of art? It is with profound regret that the Commissionreturns the revised design without approval, preferring the old design to the new one, but still suggesting the possibility of a better result.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

Hon. F. Trubee Davison,
Assistant Secretary of War,
Hon. Edward P. Warner, Assistant Secretary of the Navy.
Washington, D.C.

Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Exhibit A

January 4, 1913.

My dear Sirs:

In regard to the revised design of the Washington Flying Cross:
when the design was finally come before the Commission of Fine Arts it was
urged that there was immediate necessity for approval of a design in order
to present a cross to Colonel Washington. Of the designs submitted the
Commission selected the best of the lot. At the same time they felt that
the design was not worthy in general conception and execution of the high
honor it was intended to signify. In other connection it is the custom
to give in the form of medallion of high standing and distinguished
achievements the design of such trophies. Here was an opportunity to
produce a medal of the highest distinction, for these are the three country
specifically of high significance and dignified result. The design submitted
was commonplace and insignificant.

Over the revised design as to the Washington Navy Yard it's
circumstances compared not stood from the original design, rather than enhanced
it, and tended to their disparaged much changes. A further and very
careful consideration of the design at the meeting of the Commission of
Fine Arts on January 25, 1913, confirmed this opinion.

If it not possible to redesign this medal to meet it most
[illegible] the Legislation, namely a
duplicate thereof after It is the only precedent direct that Commission can
the revised design without change, reducing the die to fit the new
one, but it will appear the possibility of a better result.

For the consideration of Fine Arts:

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

American Pharmaceutical Association

ORGANIZED 1852 INCORPORATED 1888

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION—1928-1929

President, D. F. Jones
106 Granite Block, Watertown, S. Dak.
Honorary President, F. E. Stewart
Delmar-Morris Apt. 8,359, Philadelphia, Pa.
First Vice-President A. W. Pauley
3130 N. Grand Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
Second Vice-President, W. H. Zeigler
188 Tradd St., Charleston, S. C.
Secretary, E. F. Kelly
10 W. Chase St., Baltimore, Md.
Treasurer, C. W. Holton
Box 81, Essex Fells, N. J.
Editor of the Year Book, A. G. DuMez
Lombard and Greene Sts., Baltimore, Md.
Editor of the Journal, E. G. Eberle
10 W. Chase St., Baltimore, Md.

THE 77TH ANNUAL MEETING

WILL BE HELD IN

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

AUGUST 26TH-31ST, 1929

LOCAL SECRETARY, FLOYD W. BROWN

2 W. MAIN ST., LEAD, S. DAK.

OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL—1928-1929

Chairman, S. L. Hilton
1033 22nd St., N. W., Washington, D. C.
Vice-Chairman, Charles H. LaWall
636 So. Franklin Square, Philadelphia, Pa.
Secretary, E. F. Kelly
10 West Chase St., Baltimore, Md.

OFFICERS OF THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES
1928-1929

Chairman, Ambrose Hunsberger
1600 Spruce St., Philadelphia, Pa.
Vice-Chairman, R. L. Swain
2414 N. Charles St., Baltimore, Md
Secretary, E. F. Kelly
10 West Chase St., Baltimore, Md.

RECEIVED
COMMISSION OF FINE ARTS,
WASHINGTON, D. C.
JAN 19 1929
NOTED

January 18, 1929

Mr. H. P. Caemmerer, Secretary,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Interior Department Building,
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Caemmerer:

Referring to your letter of January 16th and to our conversation today over the telephone, Dr. H. A. B. Dunning, Charles and Chase Streets, Baltimore, Maryland, the Chairman of our Committee on Headquarters Building and the President-Elect of our Association, and myself are very glad to accept your invitation to confer with the Commission of Fine Arts on Tuesday morning, January 22nd, at 10:30 A.M. We will come prepared to give you as complete information as is possible at this time in reference to our site and the building we plan to erect.

We appreciate the opportunity to confer with the Commission regarding our project.

Very respectfully yours,

E. F. Kelly

Secretary.

K/H

COPY

January 24, 1929.

Dear Dr. Dunning:

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on January 22, 1929, were much pleased to consider the building project of the American Pharmaceutical Association, in the National Capital, as presented by you and Dr. E. F. Kelly, Secretary of your Association. The Commission noted that you have acquired a portion of the square between 22d and 23d Streets, along B Street, N.W., west of the National Academy of Sciences, where your building will have a commanding position virtually opposite the Lincoln Memorial and adjacent to the Arlington Memorial Bridge. The visitors to the Lincoln Memorial are numbering over one million a year; and your building will be the first one seen from the Arlington Memorial Bridge of the monumental buildings which will extend along B Street from the Potomac River to the United States Capitol.

The Commission of Fine Arts have been solicitous as to a building at this location which would be a portion of the frame of the Lincoln Memorial, both enhancing that building and in turn being enhanced by it. Thus it would naturally fall into the plan of development for B Street.

The design of the building itself, prepared by Mr. John Russell Pope, conforms to the ideals of this Commission in all respects. The Commission therefore approve the design which you submitted.

The question is as to the location of the building on the plot. It is of the first importance that the front of your building shall line with that of the Sciences building in the adjoining square; and that you have sufficient land on either side and at the front of your building. The Commission understand that this will necessitate your raising a considerable sum in addition to what you have already raised for the purchase of the land necessary to secure a suitable emplacement on the east and west.

The necessary land to the south is owned by the Government-- a portion as a street; the remainder as a reservation. This Commission is prepared, in case you secure the east and west lands, to recommend to Congress that the portion of Water Street in front of your square be vacated, and that the reservation be included in your grounds, with the proviso that this land shall not be built upon, but shall be treated as the land in front of the National Academy of Sciences building is now treated. This would give you without cost a greater area than you would be called on to purchase. We trust that you will be able to cooperate with this Commission to bring about a result so important, and even so imperative.

The Commission of Fine Arts will be pleased to assist you in your efforts in any way possible.

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,
Chairman,

Dr. H. A. B. Dunning, Chairman,
Committee on Headquarters Building,
American Pharmaceutical Association,
Charles and Chase Streets,
Baltimore, Md.

Exhibit C

COPY

H. L. E. Dunning
Charles and Chase Streets
Baltimore, Md.

January 29th, 1932.

Mr. Charles Moore, Chairman,
The Commission of Fine Arts,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Moore:

I have your letter of January 24th and wish to express my appreciation of your interest in our building project and the cooperation which you are extending us.

As stated during my visit in Washington, I will develop a plan with the hope of obtaining sufficient funds to purchase the entire frontage of the square of which the American Pharmaceutical Association now own the central portion. I am not sure that my efforts will meet with success, but I do know that we are prepared to purchase the property controlled by the George Washington University on the west frontage and of the depth of our holdings. Both Dr. Kelly and myself appreciate very much the courteous and interested reception accorded us during our recent visit.

Very sincerely yours,

H. L. E. Dunning,

Exhibit C-1

COPY

January 24, 1929.

Dear Mr. Secretary;

The Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on January 22, 1929, considered the location plan submitted with your letter of January 8th, for a proposed group of buildings of the War Department, to consist of barracks, garage, and stable, to be built at 26th and C Streets, N.W.

The Commission of Fine Arts approve the location of the proposed buildings, with the understanding that they will be built on grounds to be purchased, and that the park lands to be used will not be used for structures, concurring in this matter with the National Capital Park and Planning Commission.

The Commission understand that the barracks and garage will be two story buildings, while the stable will be one story; and that designs for these structures (which affect the appearance of the Rock Creek and Potomac Parkway) will be submitted to the Commission of Fine Arts.

The correspondence is herewith returned.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,
Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Hon. Dwight F. Davis,
Secretary of War,
Washington, D.C.

Exhibit D

Copy

January 24, 1929.

Dear Dr. Rowe:

I regret to have to inform you that the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 22, 1929, disapproved the sketch submitted with your letter of January 14th for proposed frescoes in the Hall of the Americas of the Pan American Union. The sketch lacks significance; it does not reach the highest standards of mural painting in this country; it does not correspond in dignity to the room for which it is intended. In short, it is inadequate.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General,

Pan American Union,

Washington, D. C.

Exhibit E

Exhibit B

Washington, D. C.

Pan American Union,

Mr. L. S. Rowe, Director General,

Dear Mr. Rowe:

I regret to have to inform you that the Commission of Fine Arts at their meeting on January 25, 1929, disapproved the mosaic submitted with your letter of January 14th for proposed presence in the Hall of the Americas of the Pan American Union. The Board feels significance; it does not reach the highest standards of mural painting in this country; it does not correspond in dignity to the room for which it is intended. In short, it is inadequate.

For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

Charles Moore,

Chairman.

January 25, 1929.

PAUL PHILIPPE CRET ARCHITECT
12 SOUTH 16TH ST., PHILADELPHIA
JOHN F. HARBESON
WILLIAM J. H. HOUGH
WILLIAM H. LIVINGSTON
ROY F. LARSON

January 18, 1929.

Dr. Leo Rowe, Director General,

Pan American Union,

Washington, D.C.

Dear Dr. Rowe:

I am sending you sketches for the placing of the proposed addition to the Pan American Union on the larger site suggested. We beg to present the following comments.

1. The site suggested undoubtedly simplifies the planning of the new building, and allows more leaway in the designing of the elevations. This is due to the fact that the former site, being triangular, presents difficulties inherent to this shape. It would require a comparatively short time, with the knowledge of requirements gained in the previous study, to prepare plans for this new site if it became available.

2. We must point out that the area of this new site is very large for the building to be built upon it. A large portion of the lot becomes then, available either for future extensions or for garden. This last solution is possibly a disadvantage, as it increases materially the upkeep. This increase of the grounds would also affect the site of the present building, by adding to it that portion of Virginia Avenue abandonned and a triangular plot along B Street.

3. Scheme "A". The addition is placed with its principal front on 18th Street, on the axis of the main building and its annex. A garden is provided on the rear with space for future additions. This is the same general scheme of planning used in the present building and grounds.

Scheme "B". The addition is facing B Street N.W. which is likely to receive other public buildings. We have suggested a site for a future building on the right of the axis of the present building to occupy the large area left vacant.

Scheme "C". The addition is facing B Street, but is moved away from this street so as to have the 18th Street facade placed on the axis of the main building, with possibly a carriage entrance on 18th Street. Gardens occupy the space around the building, and future extensions might be made on the north side (C Street).

We must state again that the shape of the building as shown on these three schemes is only tentative, as it would be governed by a

more complete study of the plans. Our purpose in presenting these sketches is merely to show the relation of the area needed to accomodate the requirements of the new building in proportion to the area provided by the new site, and also to present various ways of locating the building on this new site.

Respectfully submitted,

By - Albert Kelsey and Paul P. Cret
Associate Architects

Paul P. Cret

PPC/W

COPY

January 31, 1930.

Sir:

The Commission of Fine Arts, to whom were referred the plans for an additional building for the Pan American Union, respectfully report that in their judgment the building even now required is too large for the site; and no room is provided for an expansion which is inevitable--and in a not distant future.

The building of the auditorium for the Daughters of the American Revolution, diagonally across the street from the Pan American site, will congest the area. Therefore the proposed building should have an adequate setting, both for the sake of those who work therein and also for the sake of the general appearance of the area in question.

The present Pan American building, with its appurtenant grounds, is one of the most admired buildings in America--and justly so. The same feeling that gives character and beauty to this building should be preserved in all additions. This feeling will be lost in case the proposed plans for a structure covering the entire lot should be carried out.

These obstacles can be overcome by a simple change of location from Square 146 to Square 147 (across Virginia Avenue), which has areax sufficient for an adequate landscape setting and also for future expansion. Both squares are owned by the Government.

There is an additional reason for the change,--one of supreme importance. The series of semi-public buildings facing the Ellipse beginning with the Corcoran Art Gallery and including the Red Cross, Continental Memorial Hall and the Pan American, as a series is unsurpassed. The Lincoln Memorial has taken its place among the fine structures of the world. Every effort is being made by the Commission of Fine Arts to line B Street from the Pan American corner to the Potomac with detached buildings of high architectural merit and with appropriate landscape treatment,--this as a frame to the Lincoln Memorial. The National Academy of Sciences building with its gardens is an instance in point.

The new Pan American building would lend itself to such treatment. Facing B Street--which is to be a monumental highway from the Capitol to the Lincoln Memorial--this proposed building would be a fitting unit in the fine plan. Here, then, is an opportunity to serve a high purpose and at the same time to provide adequately a desirable object.

This Commission, therefore, recommends the change of location above adverted to. The original plans for a building in Square 146 are returned without approval. The supplementary Plan B for a building in Square 147 is returned approved.

A draft of a Joint Resolution which will accomplish the aim as above recommended is enclosed. For the Commission of Fine Arts:

Very respectfully yours,

Dr. L. S. Rowe, Director General,
Pan American Union,
Washington, D.C.

Charles Moore,
Chairman.

Exhibit G

Mr. L. Case, Treasurer Pro Tem,

Dear Mr. Treasurer:

The Commission of Fine Arts, to whom was referred the plans for an additional building for the Pan American Union, respectfully reports that in their judgment the building ought not to be erected on the site chosen, and no room is provided for an adequate addition in the future.

The building as the Architects for the Department of the Interior, Colonial Building, across the street from the Pan American Union, will suggest the need. Therefore the proposed building would be a complete setting, both for the present and future of that fine group of buildings.

The Treasury Department building, like the Department of Justice, one of the most dignified buildings in the city—and [illegible]. Any [illegible] dwarfing this building by the proposed building would be a [illegible] proposed plan for a building covering the entire lot should be strictly [illegible].

There should and can be provided in a single design of location [illegible] for an ample Auditorium, both for the Pan American Union, and for the Treasury Department, [illegible] and also for future expansion. Both purposes could be served by the Government.

There is no additional reason for the group—one of importance [illegible]. The erection of semi-public buildings facing the Ellipse [illegible] Treasury and the Department of Justice, and a region [illegible]. The Treasury Department [illegible] the Ellipse, [illegible] the Corcoran Gallery of Art, [illegible] the Pan American Union, [illegible] the Potomac Park [illegible] the Lincoln Memorial, [illegible] Potential [illegible].

The Commission [illegible] the Chairman of Improvement [illegible] Plan. There [illegible] the Pan American Union [illegible] the Treasury Department [illegible] the Pan American Union [illegible] the Lincoln Memorial. The Commission [illegible] the Pan American Union [illegible] recommended.

[illegible] recommended [illegible] the Commission [illegible] the above [illegible] recommendation [illegible].

Very [illegible],

[illegible]

[illegible]

COPY

Joint Resolution

Amending the Act entitled "An Act authorizing the erection for the sole use of the Pan American Union of an office building on the square of land lying between Eighteenth Street, C Street, and Virginia Avenue, northwest, in the city of Washington, District of Columbia.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, That the Act entitled An Act authorizing the erection for the sole use of the Pan American Union of an office building on the square of land lying between Eighteenth Street, C Street, and Virginia Avenue, northwest, in the city of Washington, District of Columbia, (Public No.404, 70th Congress, first session) approved May 16, 1928, be and the same is hereby amended by striking out in section numbered one the words "bounded on the north by C Street, northwest, on the east by Eighteenth Street, northwest, and on the south by Virginia Avenue, northwest, and inserting in lieu thereof the words, "bounded on the north by Virginia Avenue, northwest, on the south by C Street, northwest, and on the west by Nineteenth Street, northwest".

Color Description

COPY

January 24, 1929.

Dear Sirs:

The National Commission of Fine Arts, at their meeting on January 22, 1929, considered the request of the National Sculpture Society, made through Mr. Ezra Winter, one of the members of the Commission, for the endorsement of the forthcoming Exhibition of American Sculpture, opening April 1, 1929, at the California Palace of the Legion of Honor, in San Francisco.

Having in mind the previous successful exhibitions of sculpture in Buffalo and in New York City, and knowing well the persons sponsoring, making selections for and arranging the proposed exhibition, the National Commission of Fine Arts desire to give to the project the utmost encouragement in their power. The interest taken in the coming exhibition by the sculptors of the country--a body of artists of distinguished achievement and (among the younger members) of the highest promise--makes certain that this will be the most notable sculpture exhibition ever held in America.

By order of the Commission:

Very respectfully, yours,

Charles Moore,
Chairman.

National Sculpture Society,
115 East 40th Street,
New York, N. Y.

Exhibit H

Exhibit H